CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2019

As per notice in the Red Cloud Chief the Mayor and City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, June 4, 2019, 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center. Members present: Mayor Brown; Councilmen Horne, Beitler, Mahin; Attorney McCracken; Superintendent Clark and Clerk Meline. Councilman Goebel was absent.

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order and asked those present to join the council in reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance. Then he stated the Open Meetings Act is on the west wall for viewing by the public.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to approve the May Police Report as submitted. Motion carried.

Ashley Armstrong (TVCDC Board Member) and Kerra Robinson(Executive Director) met with the council to give an update. There are currently fifty-nine(59) children attending full or part-time. In addition to this are school-age children that will be attending camps during the summer. The facility is open year-round from 6:45 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. They accept children starting at six weeks to twelve years old. Their staff consists of ten full-time, three part-time and three additional staff workers during the summer months. There are four certified teachers as well as additional staff have associate’s degrees in Early Childhood Education or are currently working towards that. They conduct multi-generational activities with the Heritage Nursing Home and Cherry Corner Estates. The facility also offers full day preschool during the summer months and during school breaks. They offer nature based outdoor classroom environment as well as an Edible Schoolyard garden. TVCDC accepts childcare subsidy through the state for those families that qualify. They are participating in the state quality rating system; Step Up Quality and they are currently working on Step 2.

Amanda Hajny, Cherry Corner Estates Administrator, met with the council to give her quarterly report. The facility currently has four vacancies and eleven residents. They have replaced two air conditioning units and have concerns others may have to be replaced. She stated they have checked into setting up a website, but the costs are prohibitive, and she was wondering if there was a way they could piggy back on the City website, they would be willing to pay if there was a fee for them to do so. The council didn’t think there would be a fee but told her to contact Jarrod McCartney as he is the administrator of the website. After a brief discussion, Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to allow Cherry Corner Estate to use the City website and if any fees are involved, Cherry Corner would stand the costs. Motion carried.

Next the Mayor asked if there were any Public Comments? Amanda Hajny asked about shade at the swimming pool where the parents sit. There was some discussion and the council said they would check into it. She also asked if a Speed Limit Sign could be posted on the road going to the Cemetery as people seem to fly by Cherry Corner Estates. This will also be investigated. Brenda Knehans asked if the council would consider putting up Welcome Flags next July when a family holds a three-day family reunion in Red Cloud? Then she asked about the whistle. City Superintendent Clark stated the whistle has been cleaned up and painted and will now be moved over by the Fire Hall. Hoping to get that done this week. Councilman Horne asked if the Dip Sign on the 7th and Jefferson could be removed? Attorney McCracken will check into procedure for removing a sign.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to approve the minutes with correcting the address of 506 North Cherry to 506 North Seward. Motion carried.

Beitler made the motion and was seconded by Horne to approve the Financial Reports and City Sales Tax Report. Motion carried. The City Sales Tax for March received in May was $15,603.21 compared to $14,937.38 for the same month last year.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to approve all claims presented to the council for payment. Motion carried.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to approve the payment of $2,025 to JEO for Electric Efficiency Study #16-PP-009. Motion carried. Horne then made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to approve Drawdown #12 in the amount of $2,025. Motion carried.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to appoint Jackie Klein to the Red Cloud Housing Authority Board. Motion carried.

Mahin made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to appoint Lana Tietjen to the Library Board. Motion carried.

Mahin made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to appoint Lana Tietjen to the Historic Preservation Commission. Motion carried.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to pass Resolution #707 which allows for Highways 281 & 136 to be closed for Streetcar Days on August 3, 2019. Motion carried.

Superintendent Clark gave his monthly report. Generators # 2 and #3 were tested on the 8th of the month. Had trouble keeping stable voltage on the #2 generator. Discovered that the exiter belts are loose and stretched, so they replaced all the belts except for #5 as it takes a different belt. As far as the mapping goes on the utilities, JEO will be out in a couple of weeks. The utility crew has started with some locating. ECM Insurance representative was here to inspect the Power Plant. Passed the inspection. He informed the council he had attended an ACE meeting in Kearney recently. Met with FEMA representative on the 28th of May. Went over documentation FEMA needs from us and the time frame for various reports. The new lights have been installed in the Community Center Multi-purpose room. Have one bulb that is defective, and it will be replaced. Prepared the swimming pool for opening on Memorial weekend. In general, it was a very busy month and with everyone working together everything got done before the Memorial weekend.

The following permits were issued since the last meeting: 4’ x 172’ fence for Brian Shipman, chicken coop for Pat Long, fencing for chickens for Pat Long, Quonset, greenhouse and storage container were approved for John D. Disney, chain link fence for dogs for Michael Varesi, 4’ x 330’ fence for Jeremie Trew, 8’ x 24’ concrete deck to replace existing deck for Jose Rodriguez, 8’6” x 21’ concrete deck to replace existing deck for Lindsey Rodriguez and shed addition to garage for William Figgins.

Attorney McCracken stated he had prepared an ordinance for banning of u-turn/j-turns in the business district. Don Theobald had concerns about passing the ordinance and if it was necessary. The council and Sheriff’s Department feel it is necessary to ban such turns, mostly for safety concerns. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to introduce Ordinance #648: An ordinance of the City of Red Cloud, Nebraska, to amend 5-204 of the Municipal Code of the City of Red Cloud, Nebraska related to traffic regulations; to prohibit turning from one side of the street across the other to park, on portions of Fourth Avenue and Webster Streets. Motion carried. Horne then made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to suspend the statutory rule requiring reading on three different days(meetings). Motion carried. Horne then made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to publish said ordinance in pamphlet form. Motion carried. On Fourth Avenue this will be prohibited between Elm Street and Cedar Street and on Webster between First Avenue to Sixth Avenue. Copies of the full ordinance is available at City Hall. Next Mahin made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to introduce Ordinance #649: An ordinance of the City of Red Cloud, Nebraska, to vacate a portion of Tenth Avenue located between Lot Twelve(12), Block One(1) and Lot One(1), Block 4, all in Fairview Subdivision of Red Cloud, Webster County, Nebraska. Beitler, Mahin voted yea, while Horne voted nay. Motion carried. Mahin then made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to suspend the reading of said ordinance at three separate meetings. Beitler, Mahin voted yea, while Horne voted nay. Motion carried. Mahin made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to publish said ordinance in pamphlet form. Mahin, Beitler vote yea, while Horne voted nay. Motion carried.

McCracken stated there were no updates on the Dam Project. He has been in negotiation with US Cellular on their new tower. There was also some discussion on “Vendor Permits”. All these years the council has never charged for vendors selling their products &/or services. Yet sometimes they are hooking to City utilities. A couple samples of permits were presented to the council. McCracken and Clerk Meline will come up with a permit to present to the council at their July meeting. Prosecuting Attorney John Hodge was in attendance and he and the council discussed the nuisance properties going to court.

Next the Mayor had asked to put on the agenda concerning the replacement of the City Clerk upon her retirement in March of 2020. After some discussion it was decided to start advertising in August as they would like to have someone hired by October to start a six-month training period with the current City Clerk.

Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to enter into executive session at 9:02 p.m.- for an employee evaluation. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Mahin to resume the open meeting at 9:10 p.m. Motion carried. Horne made the motion and was seconded by Beitler to approve a raise for a lineman. Motion carried.

As there was no further business to be had and done by the Mayor and City Council, Beitler made the motion and was seconded by Horne to adjourn said meeting at 9:11 p.m. Motion carried.

The next regular meeting of the Mayor and City Council will be held on Tuesday, July 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

The following is a complete listing of all claims presented for payment.

C & D Service Center, repairs 324.36

Withholding, 5/16 payroll taxes 1,095.52

Social Security, 5/16 payroll taxes 1,908.64

Medicare, 5/16 payroll taxes 446.40

Nationwide, 5/16 payroll retirement contribution 1,308.16

State Income Tax, for the month of May 865.96

AFLAC, insurance-payroll deducted 269.81

Presto X, pest control 110.21

Red Cloud Chief, legal printing 871.12

R & M Disposal, trash pick up 11,978.00

The Lincoln National Life, life insurance 234.51

Great Plains, telephone bill 985.49

BCBS, health insurance 8,143.87

Various, business insurance 7,358.16

Various, officer’s salary 695.82

Various, to economic development 2,083.35

Various, to general 2,499.99

Various, to BOT 833.34

Various, to Historic Preservation 500.01

Nationwide, 6/1 retirement contributions 1,408.54

Withholding, 6/1 payroll taxes 1,239.72

Social Security, 6/1 payroll taxes 2,262.42

Medicare, 6/1 payroll taxes 529.12

Landmark, clamps 50.57

Border States, CC lighting, school project 3,987.08

Dultmeier Sales, tool and spray gun 591.21

Eakes, office supplies & janitorial supplies 1,082.10

Reams Sprinkler Supply, underground sprinkler repairs 192.66

CPI, chemicals, fuel 240.91

Aramark, janitorial services & towel service 579.09

Cardmember Service, swimsuits & monthly adobe fee 475.36

Kenny Lumber, batteries, rental, supplies 1,122.73

J & A Auto Supply, belt, oil, gloves, hand cleaner 358.31

Black Hills Energy, natural gas service 1,732.26

Olson’s Enterprises, fuel & repairs 1,254.44

Petty Cash, extra postage, WT sample postage, supplies 227.25

ELECTRIC

Olson Enterprises, fuel for power plant 6,687.00

Postmaster, 2 boxes of #10 regular envelopes 622.80

Pierce Electronics, repair civil defense siren 460.00

NE Child Support Payment, garnishment 265.50

NE Child Support Payment, garnishment 254.75

Webster County Court, garnishment 88.12

BCBS, supplemental insurance 184.41

Postmaster, utility bill postage 253.70

Electric to bond & interest 2,000.00

Nationwide, retirement loan payment-payroll deducted 59.81

Jason Franssen, towards cell phone bill 44.00

Joe Hersh, towards cell phone bill 44.00

NE Child Support Payment, garnishment 265.50

NE Child Support Payment, garnishment 254.75

Webster County Court, garnishment 88.12

Auto Glass Experts, windshield replacement-Super’s pick up 235.00

NMPP, EIA annual forms 1,125.00

JEO, 16-PP-009 Electric Efficiency Study 1,025.00

MEAN, purchased power 62,546.23

WAPA, purchased power 3,518.91

Salaries 11,430.37

WATER

Hawkins, fluoride 199.04

Water, to CM water reserve 625.00

Sargent Drilling, gate valves 4,662.14

NE Public Health Env. Lab, water analysis 262.00

One Call Concepts, line locates 14.96

Salaries 4,546.84

SEWER

Sewer, to CM sewer reserve 625.00

NDEQ-Fiscal Services, loan principal/interest payment 10,628.80

SWIMMING POOL

Dutton Lainson, repairs to pool heater 203.97

Sunset Pool Supplies, chemicals for pool 5,316.44

PARK

Red Cloud Country Club, reimbursement 6,000.00

Dalton Long, towards cell phone bill 33.00

Salaries 367.87

STREET

Verizon, cell phone 41.35

Bladen Sand & Gravel, millings 642.90

Barco Municipal, stop signs 483.88

Salaries 2,529.96

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Red Cloud Municipal Airport, fuel for trucks 108.45

Heritage Bank, loan payment 731.98

Fyr-Tek, batteries 474.35

Platte Valley, accy kit 8.95

LIBRARY

Country Living, subscription renewal 29.97

Reader’s Digest Large Print, subscription renewal 29.96

MIdWest Automatic, annual inspection 490.00

Auld Public Library, DVD’s, janitorial supplies, program expenses 148.13

O’Keefe Elevator, elevator maint. 307.17

Reminisce, subscription renewal 19.98

Nebraska Life, subscription renewal 24.00

Nebraskaland, subscription renewal 18.00

Barnes & Noble, books 49.49

Salaries 1,463.68

GENERAL

Kidder Benefits Consulting Inc., quarterly administrative fees 216.00

Hometown Leasing, lease payment 110.00

John Hodge, attorney fees 75.00

General, to police fund 1,916.51

Nationwide, faithful performance bond 159.00

Bear Graphics, shipping on checks 20.16

Arbor Day Foundation, annual membership 15.00

COMMUNITY CENTER

Kim Danehey Nibbe, contract payment 950.00

CEI Security & Sound, check PA system 40.00

Eagle Communication, cable TV 88.61

Corporate Image Design, 12 round & 12 oblong tables 2,751.00

BOARD OF TRUST

Frank Degener, mowing/spraying BOT properties 280.00

Frank Degener, mowing 180.00

POLICE

Webster County Sheriff, May contract payment 3,854.29

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

JEO, blight/substandard study 1,937.50

CCCFF FINANCING FUND (GRANT FOR CATHER-NOT CITY FUNDS)

Cather Foundation, ½ of grant 281,000.00

CDBG

SCEDD, administrative fees for grant #16-PP-009 807.50

CONSUMERS

City of Red Cloud, deposit applied to utility bill 400.00

City of Red Cloud, deposit applied to utility bill 131.51

J. Alvorllope, refund balance of deposit 68.49

COMPOST

Salaries 720.36

CEMETERY

Salaries 1,952.26

Total Expenses $490,409.91

Todd Brown, Mayor

ATTEST: Sue Meline, City Clerk